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19 May 1999

Hanford Remedial Action EIS
US Dept. of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
MSIN HO-12
Richland, Washington 99352

Last year I paddled the Hanford Reach with my Boy Scout son and 3 other Scouters. It was our first experience on this last wild stretch of the Columbia River. We were all impressed with the abundance of wildlife and the quality of the habitat, including the clean appearance of the water.

It is critical that we save this remnant of our wild heritage especially with the recent listing of so many T & E fish species in the Columbia Basin. I've seen what agribusiness practices can do to aquatic and riparian habitats.

I strongly urge that you select the preferred alternative in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Land Use Plan. A National Wildlife Refuge including all public land on the Wahluke Slope, the Reach itself, the McGee Ranch, and the Arid Lands Ecology Reserve should be immediately established.

My fellow scouters and I thank you for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Jef Kaiser

1401 SE 145th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97233

Cc: Senator Patty Murray